

Fighting for policies that will create jobs in the 11th District and across the country, today Rep. Debbie Halvorson voted on legislation she included in her Illinois Jobs First manufacturing plan - the National Manufacturing Strategy Act, HR 4692. This legislation, which Halvorson co-sponsored, would put pressure on President Obama to promote manufacturing growth in the U.S., and produce new ideas for policies to promote American manufacturing and jobs.

"Manufacturing is key to our nation's economic prosperity, and a key part of our economic recovery will be the manufacturing sector. This bill shows a commitment to establishing an economic environment that benefits American manufacturing and American workers," said Halvorson.

The National Manufacturing Strategy Act expresses the Sense of Congress that the United States Government should promote policies related to the nation's manufacturing sector that would foster economic growth, create jobs, improve and train the workforce, and increase productive, among other policies.

It also directs the President to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the nation's manufacturing sector and workforce, requires the President to convene a National Manufacturing Strategy Task Force to review the results of the report and gather public feedback, and requires the President to submit to Congress a National Manufacturing Strategy regularly with short and long term goals for improving domestic manufacturing production and international competitiveness.

"This is about putting the manufacturing sector at the forefront of Congress' agenda, and making sure we're promoting policies that are going to benefit American workers. When we're making things in America, we're creating jobs and leveling the trade imbalance. Those are important ways we can lower the deficit and put our country on the path towards a better economy."

The bill was the first plank of Halvorson's Illinois Jobs First manufacturing plan, which focuses on her plans for continued job creation in Illinois through several areas of potential economic growth for the 11th District. HR 4692 passed the House by a vote of 379 to 38, and now goes to the Senate for consideration.